

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
U.S.S.N. 10/754,456

Remarks

The present invention is directed to compositions and methods for immunization with an immunity linker having a first binding site that is an aptamer that binds to a pre-existing immune response component and a second binding site that is an aptamer and binds to a target. Claims 1-4, 7, 13-18, and 22-36 are pending.

Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has divided the claims into 2 groups and required election of one group for prosecution.

I. Claims 1-4, 7, 13-18 and 22-21 drawn to a method of immunization involving administration of an immunity linker having a first binding site that is an aptamer that binds to a pre-existing immune response component and a second binding site that is an aptamer that binds a target. (classified in class 514, subclass 44)

II. Claims 32-36 drawn to an immunity linker having a first binding site that is an aptamer that binds to a pre-existing immune response component and a second binding site that is an aptamer that binds a target. (classified in class 435, subclass 6 and in class 536, subclasses 22.1 and 25.32)

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant elects Group II directed to immunity linkers. The Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications to the remaining non-elected groups listed above.

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Election of Species

The Examiner has also issued an election of species requirement for the following groups of species. Election of one species from each group is required, for search purposes only. If no prior art is found for these species, then the remaining species will be searched once allowable subject matter is found.

- I. One species of pre-existing immune response selected from: cellular immunity or humoral immunity.

Applicant elects the species of humoral immunity for search purposes only with the understanding that if a generic claim is found free of prior art, the remaining species will be searched. Claims 1-4, 7, 13-18, and 22-36 are generic to the pre-existing immune response.

- II. One species of target selected from: bacteria, fungi, viruses, toxic substances and drugs.

Applicant further elects the species of viruses for search purposes only with the understanding that if a generic claim is found free of prior art, the remaining species will be searched. Claims 1-4, 7, 13-18, and 22-36 are generic to targets.

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Conclusions

Applicants submit that the response herein provides a complete response to the Restriction Requirement dated January 17, 2008.

If the Examiner believes there are other issues that may be resolved by telephone interview, or that there are any informalities remaining in the application that may be corrected by Examiner's Amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned is respectfully solicited.

No additional fees are believed due, however the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account number 11-0980.

Respectfully submitted,



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